



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SAN ANTONIO BUSINESSMAN AND PHYSICIAN ARRESTED AND CHARGED
IN HEALTH CARE FRAUD INVESTIGATION**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton and Special Agent in Charge Patrick A. Patterson, Federal Bureau of Investigation announced the arrest of 48-year-old Francisco Giron Flores, Jr., and 63-year-old Dr. Delio Garcia Romeu this morning for illegally conspiring to seek payment from Medicare for more than \$3.7 million in durable medical equipment.

A 33-count indictment, returned on Tuesday and unsealed today, charges the defendants with one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud, 30 counts of making false claims for payment to Medicare and two counts of illegal remunerations.

The indictment alleges that from 1996 to June 13, 2001, Flores, as the owner and operator of Bedside Medical Equipment and Supplies and CLD Medical Supply, and Dr. Romeu engaged in a fraudulent scheme to bilk Medicare. Flores created fraudulent Certificates of Medical Necessity for durable medical equipment such as oxygen concentrators, ventilators and hospital beds. Dr. Romeu signed the CMNs without having examined the patients. In all, Flores submitted over 1600 fraudulent claims. For his part in the scheme, Dr. Romeu indirectly received over \$30,000 from Flores.

Upon conviction, the defendants faces up to five years in Federal prison per count. Both defendants are out on bond pending trial.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney William R. Harris is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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